In the Claims:

Please amend claim 18 as follows:

18. (Amended) A method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of inserting a grooved mandrel of appropriate diameter into the prosthesis, wherein an interference fit between the mandrel and the prosthesis is established.

Please add new claims 23-29 as follows:

23. A prosthesis for endoluminal delivery comprising:

at least one stent having a luminal surface and an endoluminal surface, said stent being collapsible for loading into a delivery apparatus; and

a first layer of biocompatible material covering at least a portion of at least one of said luminal and endoluminal surfaces of said stent, wherein a surface of said first layer of biocompatible material contains a plurality of alterations at spaced intervals along a longitudinal length thereof, resulting in a row of alterations.

24. The prosthesis according to claim 23, further comprising a plurality of rows of alterations positioned at spaced intervals around a circumference of said first layer of biocompatible material.

25. The prosthesis according to claim 23, further comprising a second layer of biocompatible material, wherein said first layer of biocompatible material covers at least a portion of said luminal surface, wherein said second layer of biocompatible material covers at least a portion of said abluminal surface, and wherein said first and second layers of biocompatible material are adhered to one another through a wall in said stent.

26. The prosthesis according to claim 25, wherein the biocompatible material of said first and second layers is expanded polytetrafluoroethylene.

27. The prosthesis according to claim 23, wherein said stent comprises a plurality of articulations arranged longitudinally in rows about a circumference thereof, and wherein said row of alterations comprises an alteration positioned between each successive longitudinal articulation.

28. The prosthesis according to claim 28, further comprising a plurality of rows of alterations positioned at spaced intervals around a circumference of said first layer of biocompatible material, wherein said rows of alterations comprise an alteration positioned between each successive longitudinal articulation.

A3

29. The prosthesis according to claim 23, wherein said luminal and abluminal surfaces of opposing ends of said stent are left uncovered by said first layer of biocompatible material.